Message Text

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S/R. AHERNE

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR SECRETARY FROM EB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IFAD, EFIN, EAID, EAGR

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: ADDITIONAL 20 MILLION DOLS IRANIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD) (S/S7619644)

REF: TOSEC 270235

1. AMBASSADOR HELMS HAS RECEIVED A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 1976 FROM IRANIAN MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL COURT WHICH SAYS IN PART: QUOTE. I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT FOLLOWING THE CONVERSATION OF HIS IMPERIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAJESTY THE SHAHANSHAH ARVAMEHR WITH SECRETARY OF STATE

KISSINGER AND WITH DUE REGARD TO THE CONTENTS OF YOUR MEMORANDUM OF 6TH SEPTEMBER 1976, THE IMPERIAL IRANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ANOTHER 20 MILLION DOLS IN ADDITION TO THE PLEDGE IT HAS ALREADY MADE TO ASSIST THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD). END QUOTE.

2. THIS REPRESENTS THE FIRST BREAK IN THE HITHERTO SOLID FRONT WHICH THE OPEC COUNTRIES HAVE HELD AGAINST PROVIDING IFAD CONTRIBUTIONS BEYOND THE 400 MILLION DOLS OPEC SPECIAL FUND PLEDGE. IRAN'S SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION SHOULD STRENGTHEN UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S HAND IN HIS

EFFORTS TO CONVINCE OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS SO THE IFAD MAY COME INTO EXISTENCE AT THE 1 BILLION DOLS TARGET. WE HAVE FOLLOWED UP ON YOUR SEPTEM BER 13 LETTER TO WALDHEIM WITH A CABLE INFORMING HIM OF THIS ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION. WE HAVE ALSO INFORMED EMBASSIES JIDDA AND KUWAIT THAT THEY SHOULD TELL THE SAUDI AND KUWAIT GOVERNMENTS ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT IRANIAN CONTRIBUTION AND TRY TO CITE IT AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR BILLATERAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES.

3. WE BELIEVE THE SHAH DESERVES PARTICULAR THANKS FOR HIS INITIATIVE IN MOVING AHEAD TO RESOLVE THE PRESENT FUNDING IMPASSE; HIS ACTION SHOULD GO FAR IN CONVINCING OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR PLEDGES.

4. RECOMMENDATION

THAT YOU APPROVE THE LETTER BELOW THANKING THE SHAH FOR HIS EFFORTS AT OVERCOMING THE IFAD FUNDING IMPASSE.

APPROVE ----- DISAPPROVE

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/ODF:RDKAUZLARICH; CLEARED BY EB:PHBOEKER D::RPOATS, AID/PPC:PBIRNBAUM, IO:RMOREY, NEA/IRN:MGREENE S:

5. FOLLOWING IS THE RECOMMENDED CABLE TO TEHRAN: EMBASSY SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER TO THE SHAH FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE SECRETARY.

6. QUOTE. HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI, SHAHANSHAH OF IRAN. YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY: AMBASSADOR HELMS HAS INFORMED ME OF MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL COURT ASSADOLLAH ALAM'S LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1976 INDICATING THAT THE IMPERIAL IRANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ANOTHER 20 MILLION DOLS IN ADDITION TO THE

PLEDGE IRAN HAS ALREADY MADE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD). THIS STATESMANLIKE EFFORT ON YOUR PART WILL GO FAR IN ASSURING THAT IFAD SOON BECOMES OPERATIVE SO THAT IT CAN BEGIN ITS IMPORTANT WORK.

7. THE UNITED STATES HAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED IFAD SINCE IT WAS PROPOSED BY A NUMB:R OF OPEC COUNTRIES AT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN 1974. THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR A JOINT COOPERATIVE EFFORT BY OPEC AND OECD COUNTRIES HAS NOW COME CLOSER TO REALIZATION. WITH THE TOTAL OECD CONTRIBUTIONS NOW EXCEEDING 530 MILLION DOLS AND OPEC CONTRIBUTIONS AT 420 MILLION DOLS, AN ADDITIONAL DIRECT BILATERAL CONTRIBUTION FROM ONE OR TWO OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES AND SUCCESS IN

SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S EFFORTS TO RAISE THE TOTAL OF OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD PERMIT

IFAD TO BECOME A REALITY.

8. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE IFAD CONCEPT STEMMED FROM A PROPOSAL MADE BY YOUR MAJESTY IN EARLY 1974. YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS INSTITUTION, UNDERLINED BY YOUR ADDITIONAL PLEDGE, IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT EVIDENCE OF IRAN'S CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. WITH GREAT RESPECT, SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END QUOTE.

DRAFTED BYEB/IFD/ODF:RDKAUZLARICH
APPROVED BY: PHBOEKER
CLEARANCES: D:RPOATS; S: R. AHERNE; NEA/IRN:MGREENE
- AID:PBIRNBAUM.

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